

August 05, 2024

Greetings King Tech Students and Families,

We are looking forward to a great year of learning at King Tech! At King Tech, we are thrilled to have the opportunity to offer an education that is innovative, engaging, and focused on careers and college opportunities. We are excited to welcome back the class of 2025 and the new class of 2026.

Important Dates:

- Following the ASD plan for staggering the first day of school, *there will be no classes or students on Thursday, August 15, 2024, at King Tech High School.*
- **Classes will begin for King Tech Students on Friday, August 16, 2024** (see the schedule below on start times and transportation).
- Students seeking to drop or add classes must do so by August 23, 2024
- King Tech Back to School Night for Students and Parents, August 28 (6:00 – 7:00 PM)
- Professional Dress Wednesday begins on September 04, 2024. Staff will provide students with expectations for Professional Dress Wednesday within the first two weeks of school.

We have several new staff members joining us this year. **Please welcome the following new staff members:**

- **Joanna Jardin**, Welding (joining us from Alaska Works Partnership, Joanna is a Journey Woman with an extensive background working throughout Alaska as a member of Piledrivers and Divers Local 2520)
- **Andrew Wessling**, Construction Electricity (joining us from Hanshew Middle School with a strong background in Industrial Technology)
- **Brad Johnson**, Integrated Technology (joining us from Clark Middle School with a strong background in Mathematics, STEM, and CTE instruction)
- **Kendra Besh**, King Tech Student Counselor (joining us from Wendler Middle School with over 20 years of experience with ASD. Kendra has been connected with King Tech as a counselor with the 8th Grade CTE Summer Exploration Camp)
- **Kellie Adolfae**, AA (reconnecting with ASD and joining us from work in the private sector)
- **Cheryl Burghart**, Attendance Secretary (joining us from work in the private sector)

Great things we celebrate at King Tech High School!

King Tech is Alaska's premier pre-apprenticeship high school. We provide high quality career and technical education courses to over 1,500 students daily. This number is inclusive of all our various program options for students: full-time, part-time, and after school – 3rd session.

Our Lower Yukon School District 3rd session partnership continues to thrive, 108 students for the LYSD successfully completed a 3rd session class during the 2023-2024 school year. Since 2018, this uniquely innovative partnership has served over 300 students from across the LYSD region.

The class of 2024 graduated 58 fulltime King Tech students. Since 2019, a total of 464 full-time students have graduated from King Tech. This year, 146 King Tech students both full and part-time are UA Scholars, SkillsUSA Winners, Community Partner Scholarship Winners, Industry Certificate Holders, and Direct Entry Workforce employed.

Last school year, 11 students were offered an apprenticeship with one of our industry partners: IBEW, Ironworkers Union, Carpenters Union, Think Big, Carlile (Diesel), and the Teamsters (CDL).

The King Tech class of 2024 had 6 UA scholars, 10 Community Partner Scholarship Winners, 14 Industry Certificate Holders, 5 Direct Entry Workforce Employed, and 1 entering an industry apprenticeship. 70% of the class completed college level CTE coursework, that makes these students eligible for dual credit at UAA and/or UAF, with an estimated value of 60,000 dollars in college tuition savings for King Tech Class of 2024 students. By the numbers, this means that every student in this graduating class is leaving us fulfilling our mission of helping them find and fund their future!

Our staff prides itself in developing innovative programs that engage our students and inspire interest in a career. We are deeply invested in creating positive relationships with all our students. Teachers, counselors, support staff, and administrators are all committed to helping students develop a career pathway plan.

Full-time KTHS Student Schedule

| Monday PLC Schedule | Tuesday - Friday Schedule |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 st Period: 10:15 – 11:00 | 1 st Period: 9:15 – 10:15 |
| 2 nd Period: 11:05 - 11:45 | 2 nd Period: 10:20 – 11:15 |
| Lunch: 11:45 - 1:05 | Lunch: 11:15 - 12:35 |
| 3 rd Period: 1:05 - 1:50 | 3 rd Period: 12:35 - 1:35 |
| 4 th Period: 1:55 - 2:35 | 4 th Period: 1:40 - 2:35 |

Part-time Student Schedule

| Monday PLC Schedule | Tuesday – Friday Schedule |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM – Session 1 | 9:15 AM – 11:15 AM – Session 1 |
| 1:05 AM – 2:35 PM – Session 2 | 12:35 PM – 2:35 PM – Session 2 |

ASD Transportation

ASD BUS SCHEDULE for KING TECH HIGH SCHOOL: Bus transportation is provided for all full and part-time students from the students’ neighborhood comprehensive high school.

A complete bus schedule for arrival and departure times at neighborhood school locations and from King Tech High School back to neighborhood school locations will be posted on the King Tech webpage when made available by ASD Transportation.

Self-transport: Students may be dropped off and picked up by a family member. Students may drive a personal vehicle to King Tech. Driving to school is a privilege and King Tech Administration expects all student drivers to follow all campus safety and security rules. A student driving unsafely on campus may have their driving privilege revoked.

The building is open to students starting each day at 7:45am.

Full-time King Tech Student Academic Delivery Model: To meet graduation requirements, KTHS utilizes a variety of instructional delivery methods.

We believe a high-quality education is built on a strong curriculum, positive student-teacher relationships, and engaging delivery of instruction. Our academic delivery model is designed to meet graduation requirements and to prepare students for post-secondary opportunities. We offer a balanced blend of face-to-face instruction, online learning, and structured support. The talented team delivering our academic model consists of Creed Campbell (Social Studies & Academic Team Department Chair), Ben Chizmar (Math), Jennifer Edwards-Fahl (Cyber Center Coordinator), and Kristina Gwynn-Dobler (Language Arts).

Students enrolled in academic classes at King Tech will attend a 2-hour Humanities block twice a week. Students will earn 1.0 credit each semester to fulfill individual graduation requirements in Social Studies and English. For example, a junior may need U.S. History and English III, so the course may meet on Tuesday and Thursday and will provide .5 US History-1 & .5 English III-1 for first semester and .5 US History-2 & .5 English III-2 for second semester. Then the student's 2-hour academic block that meets on Wednesday and Friday will be divided into two 1-hour periods for math and/or online classes. Mondays will be used for Advisory class where the Academic team will develop lessons and activities to build community among the full-time students, practice College, Career, Life Ready skills, receive grade level specific information, and get targeted academic support. Full-time students at King Tech receive individualized scheduling based on graduation requirements, their post-secondary goals, and the CTE pathway(s) selected by the student.

Part-time Students Seeking Full-time Enrollment

Please see the flyer attached to this letter to learn more about the wonderful benefits of full-time enrollment at King Tech High School. It is an educational opportunity like no other in the Anchorage School District!!!

Full-time KTHS Academic Delivery Model Unpacked:

*What do we mean by **blended learning**?*

- A style of education in which students learn via electronic and online media as well as a traditional face-to-face teaching.
- **Students attend KTHS 5 days a week.**

What does this look like at King Tech?

- Students learn face-to-face twice weekly with an instructor who delivers lessons.
- The other days of the week are for independent completion of the coursework with teacher support in our **Cyber Center**.
- The instructors offer additional small group and individual lessons and support as needed on Mondays through advisory. These offerings are either initiated by the instructor or the student.

What other academic instructional formats are offered?

- In addition to blended learning, some courses may be delivered in a **virtual format**.
- ASD Choice Virtual classes are self-directed online courses that do not have a Zoom meeting requirement.
- ASD Choice Virtual courses are generally science courses, physical education courses, and credit recovery courses. In addition, other courses may be offered depending on student need, interest, and by request.
- The ASD Choice Virtual instructors offer additional small group and individual lessons and support as needed throughout the week. These offerings are either initiated by the instructor or the student.
- We do offer a fully virtual academic program, through ASD Choice Virtual for students who have demonstrated success with online learning. This option allows for students to access academics online while on campus through our **Cyber Center**.
- **Students accessing the virtual format are required to attend King Tech daily for their online academic classes and their CTE class.**

What is the King Tech Cyber Center?

- The Cyber Center is a learning space where students complete work independently; and as needed are provided support from a certified teacher.
- The support role of the certified teacher is one or more of the following: progress monitoring, organizational skills support, tutoring, encouraging, and coaching peer-to-peer support.
- The Cyber Center's mission is to create a student center environment that fosters independent learning.

Counseling: *For King Tech Full-time Students*, if you have any questions related to student schedules please contact our full-time student counselors.

- Paige Petr (petr_paige@asdk12.org) Student alpha: A-L
- Kendra Besh (besh_kendra@asdk12.org) Student alpha M-Z

For King Tech Part-time Students if you have questions regarding a student schedule and/or course requests, please contact the counselor at your school.

Special Education: If you have any special education related questions, please contact our special education department chair, Laura Kimmel (kimmel_laura@asdk12.org).

Lunch Service for Full-time Students: King Tech does not qualify for the National School Lunch program because our Culinary Arts and Enterprise programs produce food during the school day. **Students should plan to bring their own lunch.** King Tech offers an ASD prepackaged snack pack for students who qualify for free and reduced lunch. If your family

qualifies for free and reduced lunch, please contact the main office for more details on the ASD prepackaged snack pack.

Once again, welcome to King Tech! We are ready to help you with your career pathway journey. Whatever your future, let us help you connect to your dream. You are part of a unique school that has the power to transform the way you think about education and most importantly who you will become as a successful career professional.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kern McGinley, Principal
King Tech High School
Alaska ACTE, President 2023, Past President 2024
www.linkedin.com/in/kern-mcginley-ed-d-6b2b75247